

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDE-00 EUR-12 EA-07 AF-10
NEA-10 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /103 W
-----039762 131858Z /41

O R 131538Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9801
USMISSION GENEVA NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MOSCOW 10089

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR WARNKE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UR US PARM XO
SUBJECT: SOVIET SUGGESTED TEXT ON INDIAN OCEAN TALKS FOR
USE WITH UN AD HOC COMMITTEE

REF:(A) STATE 159688 (B) STATE 161501

SUMMARY: MENDELEVICH SUGGESTED COMPROMISE FOR USE BY BOTH
SIDES WITH UN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON INDIAN OCEAN. HE STATED
SOVIETS ARE PREPARED TO TRANSMIT TEXT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO
COMMITTEE CHARMAN AMERASINGHE AND TO LITTORAL STATES.
IF US DOES NOT AGREE TO COMPROMISE TEXT, SOVIETS PLAN TO
USE THEIR REVISED TEXT. END SUMMARY.

1. POL COUNS AND EMBOFF MET WITH MENDELEVICH AND PALENKH
JULY 13 TO TRANSMIT MESSAGE FROM WARNKE AS INSTRUCTED REF A.
MENDELEVICH READ TEXT OF SUGGESTED POINTS FOR USE WITH UN
AD HOC COMMITTEE AND COMPARED THESE WITH REVISED RUSSIAN
DRAT WHICH HE SAID SOVIET EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAD
DELIVERED TO WARNKE. NOTING THAT WARNKE'S MESSAGE
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TO HIM DATED FROM JULY 9, MENDELEVICH SAID THAT SOVIET
REVISED TEXT OBVIOUSLY HAD NOT REACHED WASHINGTON IN
TIME.

2. TO FACILITATE AGREEMENT MENDELEVICH SUGGESTED
FOLLOWING COMPOSITE TEXT WHICH HE HOPES WILL MEET US
REQUIREMENTS AND WHICH HE FELT WOULD BE APPROVED BY

SOVIET "AUTHORITIES." WORDS IN BRACKETS ARE SUGGESTED
ALTERNATIVE PHRASING. BEGIN TEXT:

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN EARLIER UNDERSTANDING,
THE DELEGATIONS OF THE USSR AND THE USA MET IN
MOSCOW BETWEEN JUNE 22 AND JUNE 27, 1977, TO DISCUSS
SOME QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE INDIAN OCEAN. THE
MEETINGS WERE ORGANIZED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF SOVIET-
AMERICAN TALKS, WHICH ARE BEING CONDUCTED ON A VARIETY
OF (ARMS CONTROL/ARMS LIMITATION) ISSUES.

2. IN THE COURSE OF THE CONSULTATIONS HELD, AN
EXCHANGE OF VIEWS TOOK PLACE ON POSSIBLE STEPS BY
BOTH SIDES, WHICH WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO LIMITATION OF
ARMS IN THE AREA OF THE INDIAN OCEAN. THE MEETINGS
CONTRIBUTED TO A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF EACH PARTY'S
VIEWS AS WELL AS OF EXISTING (DIFFERENCES/DIVERGENCES)
AMONG THEM.

3. IT WAS NOTED IN THE COURSE OF THE EXCHANGE OF
VIEWS THAT THE LITTORAL STATES OF THE INDIAN OCEAN
AS WELL AS OTHER STATES, WHICH USE ITS WATERWAYS, TAKE
AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN (MAKING THE INDIAN OCEAN A ZONE
OF PEACE/STRENGTHENING PEACE (IN THE AREA/IN THE
INDIAN OCEAN)). THE TWO SIDES (STATED/DECLARED)
THAT THEY SHARE THIS GOAL.
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4. THE TWO SIDES ALSO EXPRESSED THE CONVICTION
THAT IN SOLVING THE QUESTIONS RELATED TO THE STRENGTH-
ENING OF PEACE IN THE AREA OF THE INDIAN OCEAN FULL
ACCOUNT SHOULD BE TAKEN OF THE UNIVERSALLY RECOGNIZED
RULES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW REGARDING FREEDOM OF NAVIGA-
TION AND FLIGHTS OF AIRCRAFT OVER THE WATERS OF THE
HIGH SEAS, UNIMPEDED CONDUCT OF COMMERCIAL NAVIGATION,
OCEANOGRAPHIC AND OTHER RESEARCH AS WELL AS OTHER
APPLICABLE RULES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.

5. THE SIDES AGREE THAT THE TALKS WOULD BE
CONTINUED. END TEXT.

3. THE FOLLOWING ARE MENDELEVICH'S REASONS FOR THIS
SUGGESTED COMPOSITE TEXT. IN PARA 1 HE SUGGESTS
USING FIRST SENTENCE OF SOVIET DRAFT BECAUSE IT
MATCHES LANGUAGE IN PRESS COMMUNIQUE AGREED TO ON
JUNE 27 AT CLOSE OF FIRST ROUND OF TALKS. FOR
SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA 1, HE RECOMMENDS USING
AMERICAN DRAFT SENTENCE WITH QUALIFICATION THAT
TERM "ARMS CONTROL" CANNOT BE CORRECTLY TRANSLATED

INTO RUSSIAN, AND THEREFORE "ARMS LIMITATION" (ORGANICHENIYE VOORUZHNYIYA) MUST BE USED IN RUSSIAN VERSION. MENDELEVICH, HOWEVER, THINKS EITHER "ARMS CONTROL" OR "ARMS LIMITATION" ARE ACCEPTABLE IN ENGLISH VERSION.

4. IN SECOND PARA, HE SUGGESTS USING FIRST SENTENCE OF SOVIET REVISED TEXT, AGAIN BECAUSE THIS MATCHES PRESS RELEASE LANGUAGE. FOR SECOND SENTENCE, PARA 2, HE BELIEVES THAT TO BE OBJECTIVE WE MUST TELL AD HOC COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN THAT WE DID NOT AGREE ON ALL POINTS AND THAT SOME DIFFERENCES OR DIVERGENCES REMAIN. HE NOTED THAT US SECOND SENTENCE, WHILE ALLUDING TO DIFFERENCES, DOES NOT STATE THAT THERE ARE ANY. HE SUGGESTS, THEREFORE, USING SECOND
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SENTENCE FROM SOVIET REVISED DRAFT SINCE THIS CORRESPONDS IN PART TO PRESS RELEASE LANGUAGE WITH THE ADDITION OF THE REFERENCE TO "DIFFERENCES." IF, HOWEVER, THE US SIDE WOULD PREFER TO SOFTEN THE WORD "DIFFERENCES", HE WOULD SUGGEST USING WORD "DIVERGENCES". EITHER VERSION WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO SOVIETS ALTHOUGH THEY PREFER "DIFFERENCES."

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L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /103 W
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9802
USMISSION GENEVA NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MOSCOW 10089

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR WARNKE

5. REGARDING THE THIRD PARA, MENDELEVICH STATED THAT US CHARACTERIZATION OF THE POSITION OF VARIOUS LITTORAL STATES IS "SIMPLY NOT ACCURATE." MANY LITTORAL STATES ARE URGING A ZONE OF PEACE, HE SAID, AND THIS IS NOT AT ALL EQUIVALENT TO "PREVENTING AN ARMS RACE BETWEEN THE GREAT POWERS." THEREFORE, MENDELEVICH CANNOT ACCEPT THIS PHRASING, BUT IS WILLING TO MODIFY THE SOVIET REVISED DRAFT, PARA 3, TO SOFTEN THE REFERENCE TO A ZONE OF PEACE. HIS SUGGESTION IS SUBSTITUTING HRASE "INTEREST IN STRENGTHENING PEACE IN THAT AREA (THE INDIAN OCEAN)" AT THE END OF THE FIRST SENTENCE OF PARA 3. REGARDING SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA 3, HE COULD ACCEPT THE US SENTENCE PROVIDED THAT THE TERM "AGREED" IS NOT USED SINCE IN HIS OPINION THIS CONVEYS MORE THAN IN FACT OCCURED IN THE FIRST ROUND OF TALKS. HE STATED THAT HE WOULD PREFER TO BE MORE CAUTIOUS ABOUT WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED THUS FAR EVEN THOUGH IN THE END WE MAY "AGREE" ON THIS POINT.

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6. PARA 4 AND 5 ARE AGRED SINCE NEITHER US NOR SOVIET DRAFTS DIFFER.

7. MENDELEVICH URGED THAT AGREEMENT BE REACHED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON A COMMON TEXT TO BE CONVEYED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AD HOC GROUP. HE SUGGESTED THE TEXT NOT BE PRESENTED JOINTLY (I.E. AT THE SAME MEETING) BUT THAT AGREEMENT MIGHT BE REACHED TO PRESENT IT "IN PARALLEL" (I.E. IN SEPARATE MEETINGS WITH AMERASINGHE ON THE SAME DAY).

8. HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE SOVIETS HAD SUGGESTED USING AN AGREED TEXT TO INFORM THE LITTORAL STATES AS WELL AS THE AD HOC COMMITTEE, AND NOTED THAT WARNKE'S MESSAGE DID NOT ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF HOW TO INFORM THE LITTORAL STATES. MENDELEVICH SAID THAT IT WAS THEIR INTENTION TO TRANSMIT A COPY TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE LITTORAL STATES AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME THAT THEY WOULD PRESENT AMERASHINGHE WITH HIS COPY. INSTRUCTIONS TO THEIR EMBASSIES IN THE LITTORAL STATES WOULD BE SENT AT THE SAME TIME AS THE INSTURCTIONS TO THE SOVIETMISSION IN NEW YORK.

9. SHOULD THE UNITED STATES NOT AGREE TO THE COMPOSITE TEXT AS PROPOSED BY MENDELEVICH, HE STATED THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD USE THEIR REVISED TEXT WITH

AMERASINGHE AND THE LITTORAL STATES AND SUGGESTS THAT THE UNITED STATES USE ITS TEXT IN MAKING ITS PRESENTATION. HE PRESENTED THIS AS "AN HONEST ALTERNATIVE" SINCE HE NOTED THAT THE DIFFERENCES IN THE TEXT WERE NOT GREAT AND THAT MUCH TIME COULD BE WASTED TRYING TO REACH AN AGREED TEXT. IN THE MEANWHILE, THE SOVIETS ARE FEELING PRESSURE FROM LITTORAL STATES TO
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INFORM THEM OF WHAT TRANSPIRED IN THE TALKS. HE IMAGINED SIMILAR REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION HAVE BEEN RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON FROM THE LITTORAL STATES. FINALLY, MENDELEVICH NOTED THAT HE WAS LEAVING JULY 14 ON VACATION AND WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATION OF TEXT. IT WAS HIS DESIRE, THEREFORE, TO AGREE TO THE COMPOSITE TEXT AND TO INSTRUCT SOVIET MISSION IN NEW YORK AND SOVIET EMBASSIES IN LITTORAL COUNTRIES TO PRESENT THE TEXT EARLY NEXT WEEK. FOR THIS HE WOULD REQUIRE US AGREEMENT ON THE COMPOSITE TEXT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THIS WEEK.

10. OTHER TOPICS RAISED IN CONVERSATION FOLLOW
SEPTTEL.

11. ACTION REQUESTED: A RESPONSE TO MENDELEVICH'S SUGGESTED COMPOSITE TEXT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IF WE CANNOT AGREE TO COMPOSTIE TEXT, WE SHOULD GIVE MENDELEVICH OUR REACTION TO HIS "HONEST ALTERNATIVE."
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, INSTRUCTIONS, OCEANS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a1f5576c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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